

GREENPEACE

# kākārīki

The difference you're making in the world

Issue 153 - May 2024

## GREENPEACE AOTEAROA'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION

**MARCH  
FOR  
NATURE**



**STOP THE  
FAST-TRACK!**

**SAT 8 JUNE, 1PM**

**AOTEA SQUARE**

# INSPIRING SUPPORTERS

*Meet one of our amazing supporters, Gundula, who has left Greenpeace a legacy in her Will.*



**To find out more about how to leave a gift in your Will, contact Danny Dyson:**  
**ph 09-200-4138 ext 62**  
**e [ddyson@greenpeace.org](mailto:ddyson@greenpeace.org)**



***Greenpeace gives me the hope that humankind is not beyond learning before we destroy our planet.***

“I understand that we are not the owner of this Earth, but rather her guardians, responsible for the welfare and survival of all sentient beings and living things thereon. Despite some cultures having lived by this wisdom, the now prevailing western culture has not even recognised this responsibility yet, but systematically exploits everything in and on this planet for capital gains.

Greenpeace’s active members are people who have understood and accepted this, trying their best to rectify what damage we have done and shake people awake to understand, that we must take urgent care if we want to survive and thrive.

Greenpeace actively better our karma for the future, and I am fortunate to be part of this.”

*- Gundula, Wakefield, Tasman District*



Stop Fast Tracking Pollution action at Parliament  
© Marty Melville / Greenpeace

# YOUR INVITATION TO MARCH FOR NATURE

*The Luxon Government's "war on nature" has been epitomised by a new Bill to fast-track consents for development projects, introduced in March this year. It could be the single worst law ever passed for the environment.*

The draft legislation would override existing environmental laws, undermine Te Tiriti and remove local communities' right to have a say on development slated for their neighbourhood. It would allow just three Ministers to approve or deny development projects, including ones that have already been rejected by the courts like seabed mining in Taranaki. It is anti-democratic, anti-transparency and creates vulnerability to corruption.

That's why on the same day as this Bill was introduced, your support helped install a giant tap pouring cow effluent outside the Beehive.

The 4-metre-tall tap was suspended on Parliament lawn with dairy cow effluent pouring out of it, bearing a message reading 'Stop Fast-tracking Pollution'.

Gen Toop, a Greenpeace board member, also made her way into a Government media stand-up, directly challenging Luxon about his war on nature. This raised crucial public awareness while also sending a warning to Luxon that we'll fight back against this undemocratic and destructive fast-track bill.

## **STAND UP FOR DEMOCRACY!**

**RSVP to the "March for Nature" here:**  
<https://greenpeace.nz/marchmag>

# MARCH FOR NATURE



## STOP THE FAST-TRACK!

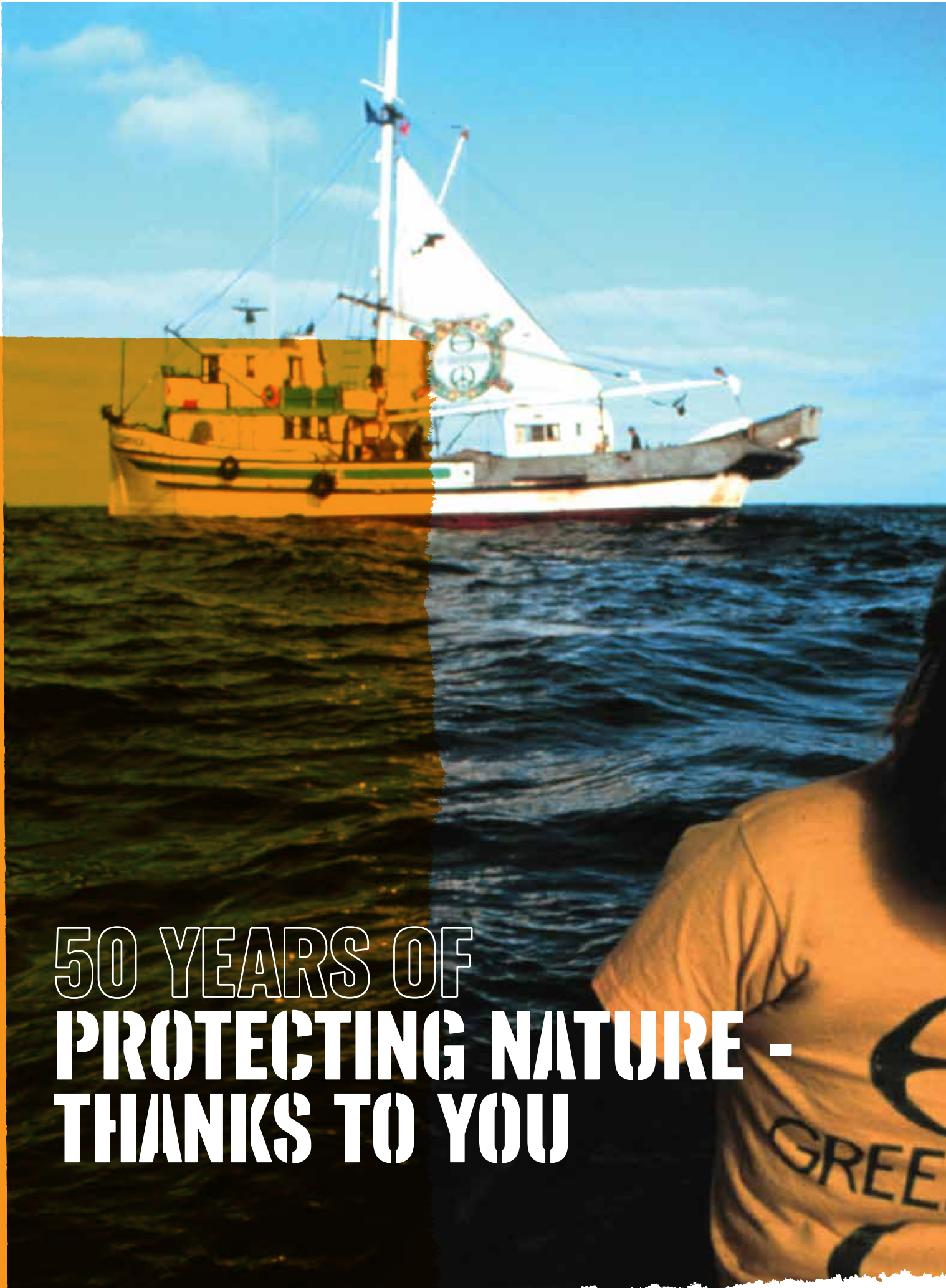
SAT 8 JUNE, 1PM

AOTEA SQUARE

[marchfornature.nz](http://marchfornature.nz)

## PLEASE JOIN US!

*Together with our supporters and allies, Greenpeace will march to STOP THE WAR ON NATURE on JUNE 8 at 1 pm in AOTEA SQUARE, AUCKLAND.*



# 50 YEARS OF PROTECTING NATURE - THANKS TO YOU



*On 15 September 1971, a group of activists set out in a creaky wooden boat with the first Greenpeace banner across its bridge. Their goal was to stop the world's largest military superpower from detonating a nuclear weapon at a remote military site in Alaska called Amchitka.*

Their voyage didn't stop that specific nuclear test, but they started a global environmental movement they named by combining two words: 'Green' and 'Peace'.

This movement quickly spread around the world - and soon Greenpeace New Zealand was born - one of the first places in the world beyond the Canadian roots. A grassroots network set sail on the first protest voyages from New Zealand to try and stop the French Government's nuclear tests at Moruroa Atoll in the early 1970s, which led to the founding of Greenpeace New Zealand as an incorporated society in 1974.

Since then, Greenpeace New Zealand, now called Greenpeace Aotearoa, has campaigned to protect the Earth's oceans, forests, climate, people, and wildlife from pollution, fossil fuels and deforestation - all made possible thanks to amazing supporters like you.

For over fifty years, together we have spoken truth to power, borne witness, stopped, blocked and placed our bodies in the way of environmental destruction. We have investigated and documented big polluters. We have conducted scientific studies, litigated and lobbied. We have tried, failed and tried again. We have also succeeded!

As we commemorate, and celebrate, 50 years since the Greenpeace set sail, we are painfully aware of the gathering storm wrought by inequity, greed and corruption, of accelerating habitat destruction and the deepening climate emergency. We look to the past for learnings on how to face the future. We celebrate the passion and commitment of all who make Greenpeace possible. People like you. Thank you so much for being a part of this amazing legacy.

# YOU'RE PROTECTING THE OCEAN

## AND THE CREATURES THAT CALL IT HOME

*You are giving the precious ocean a voice. Since our last Kākāriki issue in November 2023, you've been helping make waves!*

You have been fighting for justice and transparency from the commercial fishing industry. We have long been calling for cameras on the full commercial fishing fleet to monitor the kinds of “non-target” species fishing vessels are dragging up.

Thanks to people-power, currently, 127 vessels have been fitted with cameras. New data released by the Ministry for Primary Industries has revealed that commercial fishing companies have been massively underreporting their catches of dolphins, albatross and fish prior to the cameras on boats programme. For the 127 vessels now with cameras, reporting of dolphin captures increased nearly seven fold while reported



access to this footage. This information is in the public interest, so should not be gatekept by the industry. Everyone should know the cost commercial fishing has on the ocean, so they can protect it!

You might also remember that in March 2023, we achieved a historic victory: the UN agreed on a Global Ocean Treaty. The next step in this process was for countries to sign the treaty signifying intent to ratify it, and 89 nations (including New Zealand) have done so. The final legal step required is for at least 60 countries to ratify the treaty. We need this to happen by 2025. In promising news, Palau, Chile, Belize and the Seychelles - have formally ratified the treaty!

Humpback Whales In Antarctica © Abbie Traylor-Smith / Greenpeace



albatross interactions were up 3.5 times. The reported volume of fish discarded has increased by almost 50%. That's shocking!

This is proof of concept for cameras on boats and why your donations have helped launch a new campaign to make bycatch footage public.

There is now undeniable evidence that shows that for decades, the unmonitored commercial fishing fleet has not been accurately reporting their interactions with protected species of dolphin and seabirds, nor the amount of fish they catch and discard. This data shows us exactly why we need cameras on the whole commercial fleet – including deepwater vessels. It also shows what the commercial fishing industry tries to hide - and what they don't want you to know. As an environment champion, you - and all the public - should have

To make sure this happens, we've been continuing to call upon world governments to protect the ocean. Greenpeace ships have been visiting key areas for protection such the Galapagos and the Sargasso Sea. They will also visit the Emperor Seamounts and the Lord Howe Rise/South Tasman Sea, which is close to home. Funded by supporters like you, Greenpeace teams have been gathering research, photos and videos from these vital ecosystems to build the case for their urgent protection.

***Your voice is needed! We urge you to sign the petition to make bycatch footage public and keep the fishing industry accountable:***  
***<https://greenpeace.nz/bycatch>***



# YOU'RE PROTECTING THE SEA BED

*For the last few years, you have made sure we can interrupt reckless companies at their every attempt to start mining the seafloor, starting up another horrifying extractive industry.*

Scientists warn deep sea mining would cause severe - and potentially irreversible - damage to the ocean, as well as all the creatures that live there. Many that likely haven't been discovered yet!

In December 2023, Greenpeace International activists carried out the first-ever occupation against deep sea mining as part of a nearly 2-week protest in the Pacific Ocean. A court case was brought against Greenpeace in the Netherlands asking for our activists to be banned from coming within a 500-metre radius of their ship. However, we had a great victory when the judge denied this request!

On the local domestic front, your support has meant we're able to keep up the more than decade-long fight to prevent Trans-Tasman Resources (TTR) from mining the seabed in the precious pygmy blue whale and critically endangered Māui dolphin habitat.

Greenpeace Aotearoa joined people from the local community, Ngāti Ruanui, Kiwis Against Seabed Mining and Climate Justice Taranaki to show a united opposition to mining in the South Taranaki Bight at a hearing of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in Hāwera from March 13 to March 15 2024.

While more hearings were planned, TTR suddenly pulled out from them and is banking on the Government's fast-track processes to give them the green light

later in 2024. However, we'll stand up to them, like we always have, every step of the way.

“

*If TTR thinks that this fast-track invitation means they will have an easy ride, they better think again. Just as the oil industry faced a decade of relentless resistance from iwi, environmental groups and people all over Aotearoa, so too will these wannabe seabed miners.”*

- Juressa Lee

(Te Rarawa, Ngāpuhi,  
Ngāi te Rangī, Tupapa, Ngatangīia)  
Greenpeace Aotearoa  
Deep Sea Mining Campaigner

Thanks to you, our incredible supporters, for making this resistance possible.



# GLOBAL VICTORIES

*Your support makes amazing things possible around the globe. Here are a few of the highlights from the past few months.*



Jaguar in Mato Grosso, Brazil  
© Pablo Petracci / Greenpeace

## BRAZIL

### SUPREME COURT BACKS THE HEALTH OF THE AMAZON

The Brazilian Supreme Court ruled that former President Jair Bolsonaro's administration actively promoted massive violation of socio-environmental rights in the Amazon. In a landmark decision on March 14, Brazil's Supreme Court recognized the existence of an "unconstitutional state of affairs" concerning environmental matters under Bolsonaro's administration. Greenpeace celebrates this historic decision by the Supreme Court, which mandates compliance with climate change targets established by national legislation and international agreements.



Shell Oil Platform with Greenpeace Activists  
© Jason White / Greenpeace

## NORWAY

### THE CLIMATE CRISIS IN THE COURTS

Passionate nature defenders from Greenpeace and Nature and Youth won over the Norwegian state in court in a case that challenged the legality of permitting three new oil and gas fields. The court found the drilling permits to be illegal because global climate impacts had not been adequately addressed in the environmental impact assessment. The judgement means production must end in these fields. This is an amazing step in the campaign to keep fossil fuels in the ground.



Stop Calcasieu Pass 2 Petition Delivery in the US  
© Tim Aubry / Greenpeace

## USA

### NEW LNG EXPORT PROJECT APPROVALS HALTED

US President Biden halted all new LNG export project approvals, in the most significant offensive move against the fossil fuel industry by any US President. The decision comes after four years of intense campaigning led by frontline communities in Louisiana and Texas. Biden will apply a "climate test" to the export terminals in 2025 and the permanence of the decision will depend on who wins the next election in November - but no matter what, we'll keep fighting to make it a permanent LNG export ban.

# YOU'RE TURNING OFF THE PLASTICS TAP



Banner at Dondora Dumpsite in Kenya © Selvin Marete / Greenpeace

*Your support is giving a voice to all the amazing animals - seabirds, dolphins, turtles and more - that are affected by plastic pollution.*

You're helping to bring an end to the age of unnecessary single-use plastics and usher in a future where reusable and refillable systems are the new standard.

Your donations are sustaining the long-term fight to ban unnecessary single-use plastic bottles, one of the most prolific forms of plastic pollution. Companies like Coca Cola pump out billions of these bottles per year - but people like you are demanding change.

On an international level, we are continuing to demand a strong Global Plastics Treaty. Despite Greenpeace, Indigenous communities and other allies calling for a 75% reduction in plastic production by 2030, overall many member states caved-in to the

fossil fuel and petrochemical industry interests.

We need a treaty that cuts plastic production and ends single-use plastic, so your voice will continue to be heard calling for this outcome.

We're continuing to ask the Government to commit to championing the strongest and most ambitious treaty possible: and our petition asking for this has been signed by more than 60,000 New Zealanders.

***Sign this petition to protect your world from plastic pollution:  
<https://greenpeace.nz/GPT>***



Collecting Plastic during the Sargasso Sea Ship Tour © Alice Everrett / Greenpeace



Mass Mobilization at INC4 Negotiation in Ottawa © Tim Aubry / Greenpeace

# YOU'RE HELPING NEW ZEALANDERS GET SAFE DRINKING WATER

*The Luxon Government has announced that it plans to remove important freshwater and animal welfare protections in favour of allowing big businesses like Fonterra to produce more pollution.*

Nitrate contamination in drinking water, lakes, and rivers comes from the intensive dairy industry's use of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser, and from cow urine.

The current freshwater protections aren't perfect, but they are better than nothing, and they are working. Removing these protections will worsen water contamination and also mean more cows giving birth in mud this winter.

Many rural New Zealanders on bore or well water are at risk of having high levels of nitrate contamination in their drinking water, which can increase health risks such as bowel cancer and preterm births. Thanks to your generosity and support, we have been able to hold more free community water testing events, where people can bring a sample of their household water to get tested for nitrate contamination.

Our team has visited towns right in the heart of dairy country in Canterbury, Southland, Taranaki and Waikato. The results have been stark: many bore and well users have come back with high levels of nitrate contamination that could be negatively impacting their health. Some town tap water supplies have even been testing over 5mg/L, which is above the threshold for health impacts. But, thanks to the support of people like you, these New Zealanders are now informed about their

risks - and together, we are demanding better from our leaders.

In addition to this, we've continued to offer mail-in water testing, so even if you don't live in an area where we've done community testing, you can find out if your water is polluted.

Are you curious about the nitrate levels in your local area? In November, the groundbreaking new interactive 'Know Your Nitrate' map was launched. This map combines the anonymised data from hundreds of individual tests conducted by Greenpeace with council and NIWA data to show nitrate contamination levels in drinking water across New Zealand. It is an immense public resource which is constantly building as new data is added.

## SPOTLIGHT ON NITRATES:

*Explore the map that your support made possible:  
[greenpeace.nz/MM](https://greenpeace.nz/MM)*






Turtle on Ningaloo Reef, Exmouth © Harriet Spark / Grumpy Turtle Film / Greenpeace

# THANK YOU

## Any questions? Get in touch:

-  [facebook.com/greenpeace.nz](https://facebook.com/greenpeace.nz)
-  [@GreenpeaceNZ](https://instagram.com/GreenpeaceNZ)
-  [@GreenpeaceNZ](https://twitter.com/GreenpeaceNZ)

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